

OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR SHEILA SIMON

Four Steps to Focus on the Finish

Goal: Increase the proportion of working-age adults in Illinois with meaningful career certificates and college degrees to 60 percent by 2025, from 41 percent today.

STEP 1: Start students on the right path

- Diagnose, improve college and career readiness
- Add up high school and bridge math courses
- Offer dual credit courses to juniors and seniors at all public high schools

STEP 2: Know who we serve

- Package programs and schedules to fit the needs of diverse students who balance work, school, families and commutes
- Contextualize and embed remedial skills courses in credit-bearing courses
- Provide wrap-around support services, including financial aid advisement, orientation, progress assessment, tutoring and career development

STEP 3: Draw a better map

- Create a general education certificate that guarantees transfer students sophomore status
- Cap associate degrees at 60 credits, award them en route to bachelor's degrees
- Target MAP funding at completed applicants, independent students

STEP 4: Reward success

- Establish common measures of success, including certificate and degree completion overall and by at-risk students, transfers, and advancement in remedial and adult education
- Publish the success rates by college annually in consumer-friendly report cards
- Tie progress and success to state funds

For a copy of the full report please visit: www.ltgov.il.gov.

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